

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEW ENGLAND OFFICE 5 Page Office Symposium

5 Post Office Square Boston, MA 02109

Sent Via Electronic Mail (dates as indicated on electronic signature)

Mark Young, Executive Director Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility First Street Boulevard (Route 110) Lowell, MA 01850

Re: Request for Additional Time to Respond to Comments from EPA and MassDEP

Dear Mr. Young:

We are in receipt of your letter dated February 26, 2021 requesting an extension of time to provide additional information relevant to the City of Lowell's (Lowell) Integrated Plan (IP), dated December 2019. As you are aware, our joint letter with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP) dated January 20, 2021, provided comments and questions on Lowell's IP and set a due date of March 22, 2021 for Lowell's response.

EPA understands that Lowell plans to hire a consultant to complete the analysis and provide the necessary information required to fully respond to the January 20, 2021 letter. Accordingly, the EPA grants an extension of time, as requested, until June 18, 2021.

In the IP, and during our meeting on February 11, 2021, Lowell identified the Douglas and Pevey Wet Weather Storage Facilities as high priority projects. The IP implementation schedule presented in Figure ES-7 indicates a start date for the Douglas Project of 2020, and the Pevey Project of 2022. We would like to know where the City stands with moving forward with these projects. If you have any of the following information: a scope of work, conceptual or design plans, and an updated project schedule to include project milestones for each project, please provide it to EPA and MADEP by April 2, 2021.

In addition, to avoid any unplanned schedule changes or further delays with the IP, Lowell needs to provide EPA an update on the status of its response by May 3, 2021. At a minimum, the status update shall include a brief summary of progress made towards completing the analysis and collecting the information, a summary of additional analysis and information yet to be complete, a schedule to complete remaining tasks by the June due date, and a summary of any significant changes likely to be made to Lowell's IP. Lowell may choose to provide the status update verbally in a meeting scheduled between appropriate representatives of Lowell, EPA and MADEP, or in a written letter to both EPA and MADEP.

If you have any questions or to schedule a meeting, please contact me at Kudarauskas.beth@epa.goc or (617) 918-1564. If you have any legal questions, or if your attorney wishes to communicate with the EPA on your behalf, please contact Tonia Bandrowicz, Enforcement Counsel, at (617) 918-1734.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kudarauskas, Municipal Team Lead Water Compliance Section Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

cc: Doug Koopman, US EPA Region 1 Toni Bandrowicz, US EPA Region 1 Kevin Brander, MADEP NERO James Barsanti, MADEP NERO